

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 PM-03 SP-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /054 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:GHUMPHREY:MB

APPROVED BY EUR: MR. LOWENSTEIN

EUR/SOV - MR. GARRISON

C - MR. SHINN

S/S - MR. MOFFAT

NSC - MR. CLIFT

----- 078335

P 281426Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097969

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCLR, UR, US, PFOR

SUBJECT: V-E CELEBRATIONS

REFS: MOSCOW 5728

1. ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EUR LOWENSTEIN CALLED
IN MINISTER COUNSELOR VORONTSOV APRIL 25 TO RAISE MOORING
QUESTION IN LENINGRAD (REFTEL). LOWENSTEIN POINTED OUT
THAT THIS EXCHANGE OF NAVAL VISITS - FIRST SINCE WWII -

IS AN EVENT OF CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, THAT
WE WILL DO ALL WE CAN TO MAKE SUCCESS. US FEELS STRONGLY
THAT OUR PRESENCE IN LENINGRAD SHOULD BE VISIBLE, AND HOPE
IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR OUR SHIPS TO BE MOORED IN NEVA
ESTUARY. INDICATION THAT SOVIETS INTEND TO PUT US SHIPS
IN PASSENGER PORT WELL AWAY FROM CENTER OF TOWN IN OUR
VIEW WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE SINCE IT WOULD MINIMIZE POLITICAL
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SIGNIFICANCE OF VISIT. LOWENSTEIN SAID THAT

--- SOVIET SHIPS WOULD

BE AT MOST CENTRAL LOCATION IN BOSTON - THE COMMONWEALTH
PIER.

2. VORONTSOV COMMENTED THAT MORPORT HAS MUCH BETTER FACILITIES FOR CREW, AND QUESTIONED WHETHER MOORING US SHIPS IN MIDDLE OF NEVA WOULD NOT POSE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS SUCH AS GETTING PERSONNEL ON AND OFF BUT PROMISED TO PASS

ON US PREFERENCE FOR NEVA MOORING. HE ALSO REQUESTED THAT DEPT PROVIDE DETAILS OF PROGRAM BEING PLANNED FOR SOVIET SHIPS IN BOSTON, AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE.

3. LOWENSTEIN TOLD VORONTSOV THAT WHITE HOUSE WILL BE MAKING AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN NEXT DAY OR TWO ON MAKEUP OF US DELEGATION TO MAIN MOSCOW CELEBRATIONS. KISSINGER

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